

METRO-EAST REGIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS AUTHORITY

February 13, 2014 MINUTES

Chairperson Thomas Cannady called to order the February 13, 2014 meeting at 7:00 p.m. This meeting was held at Aubuchon and Cannady's Law offices.

PRESENT

Beverly Sweatman, Member
Thomas Cannady, Chairperson
Dr. Marguerite Riley, Recording Secretary
Karen Kelly, Member
Margaret Merrell, Member
Emil Wilson, Member
David Bollone, Member

STAFF PRESENT

Michael J. Pintar, Coordinator

ABSENT

Carol Neudecker, Member
member

member

GUESTS

Jane Nesbit - DDS - Metro East - Prospective

Christine Anderson - student - prospective

INTRODUCTIONS

The Chairperson, Thomas Cannady recognized that a quorum was present.

The Coordinator read the confidentiality statement that indicates that personally identifiable information should not be presented in public meetings in order to protect the privacy of those disabled persons on whose behalf the HRA conducts investigations.

Chairperson Thomas Cannady asked for changes in the agenda. The Coordinator stated an added new case, 14-070-9022.

The members and new prospective members Jane and Christine shared introductions.

MINUTES

The members reviewed the stated minutes of the December 12, 2013 HRA meeting and considered them for approval. Members present agreed to approve the minutes with suggested corrections based on a motion by Karen Kelly, seconded by Beverly Sweatman.

COMMUNICATIONS: the Coordinator and members discussed HRA operations with the new member candidates.

The Coordinator presented information regarding a NAMI request for exhibitors at SIU Edwardsville in late March 2014.

The HRA discussed recent legislative proposal to expedite the PUNs list that currently has a waiting

list of several thousand. Jane N. had additional insight into the proposal as her agency deals with the list daily.

NEW BUSINESS:

14-070-9016 - an HRA case previously opened involved a regional provider who was not the offender (was not responsible for or did not own the property). That entity provided information regarding who serves a housing department. The HRA questions whether or not a disabled consumer was offered a grievance procedure regarding eviction. The correct provider has been identified however, the consumer has not offered consent for that provider. The Coordinator suggested that case opening could be revisited if the consumer contacts the HRA. Upon a motion by Emil Wilson, seconded by Thomas Cannady, members agreed not to accept the case for investigation.

14-070-9017 - a consumer with depression was denied services because he had Blue/cross and Blue/shield insurance. The agency that denied services did not offer to help secure appropriate services. Upon a motion by Thomas Cannady, seconded by Karen Kelly, members agreed to table case opening.

14-070-9018 - a consumer with developmental disability living in a CILA was arrested several months ago after she attacked a worker. The guardian is unclear why charges were brought against a person with a behavioral plan and who has had previous similar episodes. The guardian stated today that the case was under review by another agency team. Upon a motion by Karen Kelly, seconded by Dr. Marguerite Riley members agreed to table case opening.

14-070-9019 - a facility is threatening to do a forced blood draw of a patient for an annual physical. The consumer does not have any medical issues and wants to refuse the draw. Dr. says he will draw using force if necessary. **The case was opened via emergency vote on January 14, 2014. Call for a ratification vote.** Upon a motion by seconded by David Bollone, seconded by Dr. Marguerite Riley, members ratified case opening.

14-070-9020 - a consumer says he received mail that included games that had another consumers name on them. Consumer 2 mailed games were apparently mailed to a relative who in turn mailed the games back to consumer 1 and now the staff won't let him have the games and won't give him a notice of restriction. The staff gave him a copy of property list but no one signed it and all staff refused to speak to him regarding the property. Upon a motion by seconded by Dr. Marguerite Riley, seconded by Karen Kelly, members agreed to case opening.

14-070-9021 - a nursing home won't cooperate with the agency serving its psychiatric patients. A consumer was in the hospital and now that she's returned to the nursing home wants her out as stated by staff and evidenced when a transfer packet was mailed to another home without having guardian permission. They have not offered a discharge notice but they complain to the guardian that they are getting public health tags because of the consumer's behavior. The DON has consumers hospitalized any time there is a behavior where there is physical contact. The consumer had to go out to a regional hospital. The facility is licensed to serve persons with psychiatric disabilities, however, the facility staff don't have background in mental health and aren't providing appropriate services. Upon a

motion by seconded by Karen Kelly, seconded by Thomas Cannady, members agreed to case acceptance.

14-070-9022 - a mother took her 5 year old son to a mental health provider for assessment and evaluation. They were escorted to a room the size of a closet where they had a video interview with a Physician who appeared to be in his pajama's and eating his breakfast. The alleged Physician interrogated the 5 year old and told him he had heard he was a bad boy and actually, according to mom traumatized the child. Totally unprofessional and inappropriate. Upon a motion by seconded by Dave Bollone, seconded by Emil Wilson, members agreed to case opening.

B. Other new business

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Pursuant to Section 721 of the Illinois Guardianship and Advocacy Act and Section 42 of the Open Meetings Act, upon a motion by Dr. Marguerite Riley, seconded by Thomas Cannady, the Authority went into closed session at 7:33 p.m. to discuss case progress and reports of findings.

Case Progress Reports:

V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Case progress reports

14-070-9002 - Wellsprings of Jerseyville - transportation home from ER

14-070-9003 - Jerseyville Hospital - forced a consumer to leave the hospital

14-070-9011 - Memorial Hospital - turned away ER patient

14-070-9013 - Alton Mental Health Center - property

14-070-9014 - Alton Mental Health Center - visitation

B. Reports of Findings:

13-070-9034 - Alton Mental Health Center - property

14-070-9013 - Alton Mental Health Center - PDR (property)

C. Case Closures:

13-070-9031 - Alton Mental Health Center - discharge and 911

14-070-9006 - Central School District - inadequate services

14-070-9012 - Alton Mental Health Center - one-on-one

The HRA returned to open session at 7:55 p.m. upon a motion by Karen Kelly, seconded by Beverly Sweatman.

Upon returning to open session:

Report of findings: Upon a motion by Dr. Marguerite Riley; seconded by Margaret Merrell members agreed to approval of the two reports findings with suggested changes pending Administrative approval.

Case Closures:

13-070-9031 - Alton Mental Health Center - discharge and 911 - members agreed to table case closure based on a motion by Beverly Sweatman, seconded by Thomas Cannady.

14-070-9006 - Central School District - inadequate services - Upon a motion by seconded by Emil Wilson, seconded by Karen Kelly, members agreed to case closure without having conducted and investigation. The family did not provide consent and did not continue correspondence.

14-070-9012 - Alton Mental Health Center - one-on-one - Upon a motion by seconded by Dave Bollone, seconded by Beverly Sweatman, members agreed to case closure without having conducted an investigation. The consumer was discharged and chose not to pursue the allegations.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMENTS:

The next meeting will be March 13, 2014 at Thomas Cannady's offices

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Dr. Marguerite Riley, Recording Secretary